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*Births, excess of births over deaths, and infant mortality, 1917—Continued.*

Area.	Number of births.	Excess of births over deaths.	Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births.
Pennsylvania:		<i>Per cent.</i>	
Philadelphia.....	42,788	44.3	108.4
Pittsburgh.....	16,543	55.4	119.9
Seranton.....	3,298	46.8	147.7
Rhode Island:			
Providence.....	6,395	60.0	101.6
Virginia:			
Richmond.....	3,790	29.3	136.1
White.....	2,500	59.6	93.6
Colored.....	1,290	<sup>1</sup> -5.6	218.6
Washington:			
Seattle.....	4,876	92.7	60.5
Spokane.....	2,104	81.1	62.3
Wisconsin:			
Milwaukee.....	11,289	106.7	93.7

<sup>1</sup> Percentage by which births fell below deaths.**SALE OF INFECTED MEAT CAUSING TRICHINOSIS.****PENNSYLVANIA COURT HOLDS THAT DEALER IS NOT LIABLE WHERE NEGLIGENCE IS NOT SHOWN.**

That a dealer is not liable for selling meat infected with trichinæ, and which caused illness, when there was no negligence in such sale, is the decision in a Pennsylvania case.<sup>1</sup>

In an action to recover damages for illness resulting from eating pork infected with trichinæ, the defendant offered evidence showing that "parasites, known as trichinæ, are invisible to the naked eye and can be discovered only by microscopic inspection; that such inspection is untrustworthy and does not in all cases give assurance that the particular meat inspected and approved is free from parasites; that no system of inspection is known to science by which the presence of trichinæ can be detected with certainty in all cases; and that the only sure method of eliminating the danger is to thoroughly cook the meat at a temperature of at least 140°, whereby the harmful parasites are destroyed and the meat rendered wholesome and fit for food." Defendant also showed that "for the reasons above stated, the United States Government concluded an attempt to inspect all pork for trichinæ would result in more danger to the public than no inspection, for the reason [that] knowledge on the part of the public that an inspection had been made would lead to a false sense of security and induce consumers to omit taking proper precautions to avoid danger by thoroughly cooking."

It was shown, too, that other packing establishments made no inspection for trichinæ.

The court held that there had been no negligence on the part of the dealer.

<sup>1</sup> Tavani v. Swift & Co., 105 Atl., 55.